Subject : Joseph Bernhardt -- medallic work of.

See also : Kronfeld, Saunders + Co.

Writer/Recipient #1 : Langdon, William Chauncey

Bauer, J.B., Prof.

[Munich, Germany]

1927-1928

Munich, November 3. 1927.

Mr William Chauncy Langdon 195 Broadway New York City.

RECEIVED
NOV 19 1927
W. C. LANGDON

Dear Sir,

At the suggestion of Mr.George F.Hill, Keeper of coins of the British Museum, who authorized me to use his name and kindly and quite spontaneously gave me your address, I take the liberty of calling your attention to the numismatic work of Joseph Bernhart, member of C.C.and leading sculptor at Munich, and of sending you a selection of his patterns and medals. Bernhard has resuscitated the art and technique of the masters of the Renaissance, Hagenauer, Flötner, Gebel, Daucher etc, and is to my knowledge the only sculptor to-day who employs this method. His patterns, carved in Kelheim stone (Solnhofen slabs) are finished positives, from wich the casts are made directly by a procedure exclusively his own,with the result that when they come from the casting mould they are perfect in finisch and require no touching up or chasing. Each medal, therefor, from the stone pattern to the finisched cast, is the product of his own hand. A special feature showing his refined sense of art and technique in a paramount degree are his portraits, which are carved from life alla prima vista and give evidence of that love for his work and careful attention to minutest details of characteristics which serve to import warm life to cold matter.

The model of Prof.Joseph Sattler has received a Government reward, and a large number of the artists' stone patterns as well as the majority of his casts have been acquired by the

State and adorn the exhibits of the numismatic State collections and museums at Munich, Berlin and Vienna. Moreover, a number of casts and models were in the past year purchased by the British Museum, the Royal Mint London, the South Kensington Museum, the Birmingham Art Gallery and the Kaiser Friedrich-Museum Berlin. Bernharts productions are unique in every respect, and I have, with his consent, undertaken to bring him and his work to your notice knowing of course full well that to an authority of your high standing any commentaries are superfluous as you will be the best judge of the material forwarded to you. Any wishes you may express toward a purchase of medals will receive immediate attention. I should also be pleased to render such information upon technical and artistic questions as will touch directly upon the artists sphere of work. May I request you to kindly acknowledge at your convenience the receipt of the samples? I should add that the entire collection sent to you ist not in the market, but Bernharts personal property.

Trusting that you will favour me with a reply I am

yours

very truly

Prof. J. B. Bauer

Munich

Damenstiftstr. 16/III

München

P.S. The package is going off to-day through the firm of Dr. Eugene Merzbacher, Coindealers, Munich.

B.

Dr. Eugen Merzbacher Nachf.

* Münzenhandlung *

An- und Verkauf von antiken Kunstgegenständen

MÜNCHEN, Karlstraße 10

Telefonruf 56761 / Telegrammadresse: Münzenhandlung Merzbacher München
Postscheckkonto Nr. 6559 München / Bankkonto: Deutsche Bank Filiale München.

München, den 9th Nov. 1927

Mr. Will. Chauncy Langdon
195 Broadway
New-York-City

RECEIVED
NOV 19 1927
W. C. LANGDON

Dear Sir,

We sent you for some time our latest catalogue 27 and beg to ask you to-day, if you did not find anything pleasing you. If there are any pieces/ suiting you, we willingly send them you on approval.

Awaiting to hear from you, we are

very respectfully yours

Dr. Eugen Merzbacher Nachf.

By charge of sculptor Reg, Rat. Bernhard we beg to send you to day with post parcel, registered and insured 9 stonemodels, 14 silvermedals and 1 brassmedal.

List of Stone Models.

		Price
1.	Hofschauspieler Friedrich Ulmer, Munich, as "Florian Geyer" (single view)	$175.
2.	Prof.Dr.Alfred Noss, President of the Bavarian Numismatic Society (double views)	60.
3.	Mme. Rosa Drexler Vienna-Moedling (single view)	30.
4.	Prof. Wilhelm Mueller, Composer, Munich (double views)	90.
5.	Carl Seydel, opera singer, Munich (double views)	60.
6.	Plaquette Georg Putscher, Hofschauspieler, Munich	35.

List of Medals

1.	Elizabeth Feuge, primadonna, Munich, as "Eva" in "Meistersinger". Silver. (Stone model acquired by the Brisith Museum)	10.
2.	Josef Geis, opera singer, Munich, as"Beckmesser" in "Meistersinger". Silver. (Stone model acquired by the State of Austria.	8.
3.	Carl Seydel, opera singer, Munich, as "David" in "Meistersinger". (Cast of the model No.5)	8.
4.	Prof. Wilhelm Mueller, composer, Munich, Silver (Cast of the model No. 4)	9.
5.	Cardinal Michael Faulhaber, archbishop, Munich, Silver (Stone models acquired by the State of Bavaria)	8.
6.	Toska Elizabeth Bernhart, the artist's daughter, Silver	8.
7.	Hermann Ertel, numismatist, Halle, Silver	7.
8.	Prof. Max Dasio, sculptor, Munich, Silver (Stone model acquired by the Prussian State)	8.
9.	Medal in commemmoration of the 1200th anniversary of the chartered Abbey of Reichenau, Silver	4.
10.	Friedrich Ulmer as "Florian Geyer". Bronze. (Cast of the model No. 1)	5.
11.	Dr. Adolf Feulner, conservator, Munich, Silver	8.
12.	Gustav Waldau, Hofschauspieler, Munich, Silver	8.
13.	Prof. Anton Mueller-Wischin, painter, Munich, Silver	4.
14.	Direktor C.W.Scherer, Frankfort/Main, Silver	8.

WILLIAM CHAUNCY LANGDON
195 BROADWAY
NEW YORK CITY

December 7, 1927

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 156th Street,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Wood,

I send you with this a letter I have received from Prof. J. B. Bauer of Munich about the medallic work of Joseph Bernhart, and a letter from Dr. Eugen Merzbacher, with my several acknowledgments. The package of medals has arrived in New York, but as the valuation is over $100.00, it is subject to Formal Customs Entry under the Society's bond. Accordingly I am referring the matter to you and send you also Customs Notice. These medals were sent to me without my request and without notification in advance. Prof. Bauer speaks of them as samples; I gather that he wants to receive orders for them and have these particular exemplaires returned. Will you kindly take the matter over and act in the premises as you think best? With sincere appreciation,

Very truly yours,

William Chauncy Langdon

December 7, 1927

Prof. J. B. Bauer,
Damenstiftstr. 16/III,
Munchen, Germany.

Dear Sir,

I thank you for your letter of November 3rd about the medallic work of Joseph Bernhart, which you wrote to me at the suggestion of Dr. George F. Hill of the British Museum. I have written to Dr. Hill expressing my appreciation of his courtesy in so doing. Your letter I have referred to Mr. Howland Wood, Curator of the American Numismatic Society, who will get the package of medals through the customs and will then be glad to give the matter attention. As the valuation was considerably over $100.00 the proceedure is much longer and more difficult than otherwise. In accordance with your request however I want to tell you that the package has arrived in this country. With best wishes and appreciation, believe me,

Very truly yours,

Chairman, Committee on Foreign Medals,
American Numismatic Society.

INVOICE OF MERCHANDISE
(NOT PURCHASED)

Munich, January 3. 1928
(Place and date)

Invoice of nine stone models and thirteen silver and one brass model *shipped*

by Dr. Eugene Merzbacher Nachfolger, *of* Munich, Karlstrasse 10
(Indicate whether manufacturer, owner, or part owner)

to The American Numismatic Society c./o. Mr. William Chauncy Langdon 195 Broadway New York, *of* New York Broadway between 155 th an 156 th street

for account of Josef Bernhart sculptor, *of* Munich Lerchenfeldstrasse 11

to be shipped per vessel

STATE WHETHER VALUES GIVEN IN THIS INVOICE ARE IN GOLD, SILVER, OR PAPER CURRENCY

MARKS, NUMBERS, AND QUANTITIES	MANUFACTURER'S NOS. (See Note 1 below)	FULL DESCRIPTION OF GOODS (N. B.—Always state the cost of packing, and all other costs, charges, and expenses)	INVOICE VALUE PER UNIT (See Note 2 below)	TOTAL INVOICE VALUE	CONSULAR CORRECTIONS OR REMARKS
			$	$	
1 package	-	Nine stone models for medals:	1 piece		
Brutto about 800 grammes	-	1 model Friedrich Ulmer	175.-	175	
		2 models Alfred Ross	30.-	60	
		1 model Rosa Drexler	30.-	30	
Netto about 350 grammes		2 models Wilhelm Müller	45.-	90	
		2 models Carl Seydel	30.-	60	
		1 model Georg Putscher	35.-	35	
		Thirteen silver medals:			
		1 Elisabeth Feuge	10.-	10	
		1 Josef Geis	8.-	8	
		1 Carl Seydel	8.-	8	
		1 Wilhelm Müller	9.-	9	
		1 Cardinal Faulhaber	8.-	8	
		1 Toska Bernhart	8.-	8	
		1 Hermann Wrtel	7.-	7	
		1 Max Dasio	8.-	8	
		1 Reichenau anniversary	4.-	4	
		1 Adolf Feulner	8.-	8	
		1 Gustav Waldau	8.-	8	
		1 Anton Müller-Visching	4.-	4	
		1 Carl W. Scherer	8.-	8	
		One brass Medal : Friedrich Ulmer	5.-	5	
		Portage		1	
		Packing		1	
		total	US $	355.-	

NOTE 1.—"Manufacturer's Numbers." This column must include manufacturer's grade, quality, marks, numbers, or symbols.

NOTE 2.—The unit values of this invoice are those indicated in No. 5 ____ (State—(a), (b), (c), or (d)) of "Required Contents of Invoice," on reverse side hereof.

If any taxes to which the merchandise is subject, either for home consumption or for export to the United States, as the case may be, are not included in unit values, they must be set forth separately and clearly at foot of invoice.

(*Signature of shipper or agent of shipper signing in the name of his principal.*)

Signature of Shipper Shipper Dr. Eugen Merzbacher Nachf.

By (authorized agent)

Münzenhandlung
München, Karlstraße 10

1—13

Quadruplicate

MERCHANDISE NOT PURCHASED

Invoice No. 27 *Issued in* { TRIPLICATE / QUADRUPLICATE }

Certified 3. Jan. 1928 (Date)

AMERICAN CONSULAR SERVICE

AT

Munich Germany

Date January 3 1928

Consignor Firma Dr. Eugene Merzbacher Nachfolger, Munich, Karlstr 10

Consignee The American Numismatic Society New York C./O Mr. William Chauncy Langdon 195 Broadway New York

Carrier Vessel
(Vessel or railroad)

Port of shipment Hamburg

Destination of goods

Port of arrival New York

Port of entry

U.S.A.

Amount of invoice $ 555.-

Kind of goods Nine stone models for medals in Solenhofen stone and thirteen silver medals and one brass medal made all by the Munich Sculptor Bernhart, modern works

1—13 GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

Form 139
(Amended May, 1924)

DECLARATION OF SHIPPER OR HIS AGENT WHEN THE MERCHANDISE IS SHIPPED OTHERWISE THAN IN PURSUANCE OF A PURCHASE OR AN AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE

I, We, Franz Szkolny

acting in the capacity described below, truly declare that

Firma Dr. Eugene Merzbacher Munich Karlstrasse 10

of

is / are the *shipper / shippers* of the merchandise described in the within or attached invoice; that the merchandise is shipped otherwise than in pursuance of a purchase, or an agreement to purchase; that there is no other invoice differing from the within or attached invoice and that all statements contained herein and in such invoice are true and correct.

I / We further declare that

and that it is intended to make entry of said merchandise at the port of New York N.Y.

in the United States of America.

Dated at Munich *this* 3 *day of* January 1928

Franz Szkolny
(Shipper)

(Agent of shipper)

Dr. Eugen Merzbacher Nachf. Münchner Kunsthandlung München, Karlstraße 10

CONSULAR CERTIFICATE

Form 140
(Amended May, 1924)

3. Jan. 1928
(Date)

I do hereby certify that this invoice was this day produced to me by the signer of the above declaration.

I do further certify that I am satisfied that the person making the declaration above is the person he represents himself to be, and that a fee of $2.50 United States gold, equal to _____ (Local currency) *, has been paid by affixing stamps to the duplicate copy of this document.*

Witness my hand and seal of office the day and year aforesaid.

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL MUNICH, GERMANY

C. T. Zawadzki
Vice Consul *of the United States of America.*

REQUIRED CONTENTS OF THIS INVOICE

(1) The port of entry to which the merchandise is destined.
(2) The place from which shipped, the time when and the person to whom and the person by whom it is shipped. If the merchandise is shipped to a person in the United States by a person other than the manufacturer, otherwise than by purchase, such person shall state on the invoice the time when, the place where, the person from whom such merchandise was purchased, and the price paid therefor in the currency of the purchase, stating whether gold, silver, or paper.
(3) A detailed description of the merchandise, including the name by which each item is known, the grade or quality, and the marks, numbers, or symbols under which sold by the seller or manufacturer to the trade in the country of exportation, together with the marks and numbers of the packages in which the merchandise is packed.
(4) The quantities in the weights and measures of the country or place from which the merchandise is shipped, or in the weights and measures of the United States.
(5) The invoice value for each item in the currency in which the transactions are usually made shall be: (a) The value for home consumption in the country of exportation; or (b) the export value to the United States if higher; or (c) in the absence of the foreign value and the export value, the price in such currency that the manufacturer, seller, shipper, or owner would have received or was willing to receive for such merchandise if sold in the ordinary wholesale quantities in the country of exportation; or (d) in the absence of all of the foregoing, the invoice value shall be the cost of manufacture.
The following statement shall be made on the face of the invoice: "The unit values in this invoice are those indicated in _____ (a), (b), (c), or (d) of No. 5)"
(6) The kind of currency, whether gold, silver, or paper.
(7) All charges upon the merchandise, itemized by name and amount when known to seller or shipper; or all charges by name (including commissions, insurance, freight, cases, containers, coverings, and cost of packing) included in the invoice values when the amounts for such charges are unknown to the seller or shipper.
(8) All rebates, drawbacks, and bounties, separately itemized, allowed upon the exportation of the merchandise.

INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY RELATIVE TO THE REQUIRED CONTENTS OF INVOICES

When special form of invoice is required by the United States customs authorities, and when the required information can not be given on the face of this invoice form, it should be attached to and be in lieu of the printed invoice form.

Munich, Janᵛ 6th, 1928

RECEIVED
JAN 20 1928
W. C. LANGDON

Mr W.C. Langdon,

Dear Sir

Enclosed please find duplicate of Invoice of medals, which Mr Bernhart requests me to send to you, the original Invoice having gone off to Mr Wood. As a personal friend of Mr Bernhart's I appreciate your kindness very highly and wish to convey to you also Mr B's thanks and hopes that any difficulties may now have been overcome and that Mr Wood will soon be in possession of the package. Trusting that this specific art work will appeal to the "Numismatic Socy" sufficiently so as to result in some acquisitions, I am

Yours

Very Truly

pp J. B. Bauer

Damenstiftstr. 16/III
Munchen

January 28, 1928.

Professor J. B. Bauer,
Damenstiftstrasse, 16/III,
Munchen, Germany.

Dear Sir,

Your two letters of November 3, 1927, and of January 6, 1928, have both been received, and also the package of medals by Joseph Bernhardt. It was a hard task to get them through the customs, as you had a list of prices enclosed bring the valuation far over $100.00. I turned the matter over to the Curator of the Society, as I soon found it would be necessary to give bond for them while in this country. However Mr. Wood got them through just the day before the annual meeting of the Society a short time ago, and he had them on exhibition at the Museum at that time and they were seem by all the members present. They were very interesting indeed and I heard a number express their pleasure at seeing them.

It is not clear to us whether they are for sale at the prices you state or not, as you say they are not on the market. The Society has no fund for the purchase of medals. All its funds are specially designated as to its use. In case of buying medals, we have to find someone who will give for the particular purchase. Also, I think that we cannot select from the lot of medals you sent, but under our bond we should have to keep all or return to you all. In any event, we have been interested in seeing Professor Bernhardt's work and gratefully appreciate your sending them on to us. They are in the care of the Curator, Mr. Howland Wood, and I would suggest that you write to him at the

above address in regard to the disposition of the medals which you intended and desire. With personal appreciation of the opportunity of seeing them and congratulations to Professor Bernhardt on the very effective method he has of reproducing his interesting work, believe me,

Very truly yours,

William Chauncy Langdon
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Medals.

Munich, Feby 19th, 1928

Mr William Chauncey Langdon
The american Numismatic Soc'y
New York.

RECEIVED
FEB 23 1928
W. C. LANGDON

Dear Mr Langdon,

Many thanks for your letter of Jan 28. As you suggested I have written to Mr Wood who will, I presume, inform you of the contents of my letter. I dont know the duty on these articles, the amount of which would, of course also cut a reducing figure in their eventual purchase by you. When I say "purchase" I mean that a patron can be found willing to donate the collection to the society. It would naturally be a great satisfaction to Mr Bernhart if his art work, which is found in most European museums, were also represented in the Numismatic Society of America, and he is still in hopes that the matter may be arranged some way and some time – he is quite willing to wait. If, in due course of time no such

prospect should offer and no other way be found to keep part or all of the medals and models in your country, then I suppose Mr. B. would have to impose upon your great kindness to arrange for their return here.

Trusting, however, to hear favorably from you at your convenience, I am, dear Sir,

Yours

Very Truly

Prof. J. B. Bauer

München

Damenstiftstr. 16/III.

Mr. Bernhart's address:

Mr. Josef Bernhart

c/o National Theater

München

Munich, Febʸ 19th, 1928

Mr Howland Wood,
The American Numismatic Soc'y.
New York.

Dear Mr Wood,

at the suggestion of Mr W. C. Langdon I write to you regarding those medals which to my sincere regret you had such difficulties in "extricating" from the customs office. I am speaking also for Mr Bernhart when I assure you and Mr Langdon of our high appreciation of your interest in his medal work. The excess of the $100 limit in the price list was unwittingly caused by Mr Bernhart's desire to show you a rather extensive variety of his work, and as an exact list of the articles and their (art) values was required at this end of the line, he had lost sight of any eventual difficulties that might turn up at your end.

Perhaps my expression as to the medals not being "in the market" was somewhat misleading; what Mr Bernhart means is that they are not for general

sale, they are mostly executed on private orders and remain his property. This restriction, however, does not extend to museums, art Institutes, collectors etc that may wish to add them to their collections as specimens not only of high class medal-portraiture but also of a method in medal work which had been lost for 3 centuries and of which he is to-day the only practical exponent. The prices quoted are the same at which a number of European museums have purchased these models and medals. But as the peculiar situation in this case sums to reduce the question of a purchase — provided a patron is found — to the alternative: either all or none, Mr Bernhart is quite willing to make a concession in the price by reducing it to about $500. There is no hurry on his part if you think there is a prospect of interesting some "Maecenas" in the matter.

Kindly let me or Mr B. know at your leisure whether in your opinion there is such a chance, and believe me

Yours Very truly

P/ J. B. Bauer
München
Damenstiftstr. 16/III

Mr Josef Bernhart
c/o National Theater
München

28th Feb., 1928

Professor J. B. Bauer,
München, Germany

Dear Professor Bauer:

Your letter is just received and we are very much interested in what you have to say concerning the medals made by Mr. Bernhart. These we received in time to put on view at our annual meeting and a number of our members saw them. We have also shown them to several others since then. Unfortunately, in this country there is next to no interest in modern medals unless they are of historical importance. We were unable to interest any one sufficiently to purchase either the original stones or copies from these. Our own Museum is not working on exactly these lines, although in times past we have exhibited and have tried to interest collectors in modern art, as exemplified by medals, we have not been able to arouse much enthusiasm.

We are planning to return these to you shortly. We, however, wish to keep two of them; but as the whole consignment came in under bond the whole consignment will probably have to be returned to you. Then you will have to, if you wish) ship back to us the two medals we desire.

I beg to remain

Very truly yours,

Curator